



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Northeastern Area
State and Private Forestry

180 Canfield Street
Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3400

Date: October 17, 2006

Mr. Kevin Thorpe
USDA Agricultural Research Service
Beltsville Agricultural Research Center-East
B-402, BARC-East
Beltsville, MD 20705

Dear Kevin:

On September 25 and 26, 2006, USDA Forest Service personnel conducted a gypsy moth egg mass survey at Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). The purposes of this survey were to determine gypsy moth population densities and to assess the potential for defoliation and the need for treatment in 2007.

Gypsy moth survey plots were randomly selected based upon available host trees (oak species), size of sample area and uniformity between egg mass counts. At each sample point, a 1/40th acre fixed radius plot was established. The plots consisted of a tally of all the new (2006) egg masses observed on the overstory trees, understory vegetation, ground litter and duff. The total number of egg masses observed for each plot was multiplied by 40 to determine the number of egg masses per acre.

The location of the survey plots are shown in Figure 1. In brief, egg mass densities ranged from 0-360 and averaged 26 egg masses per acre (Table 1). Since no noticeable defoliation is expected, treatment is not recommended at BARC in 2007.

Please call me at 304-285-1555 if you have any questions regarding this egg mass survey.

Sincerely,

RODENY L. WHITEMAN
Forester
Forest Health Protection

Cc: Robert Tichenor, MDA
Sally Hughes, MDA
Noel Schneeberger, AO

RLW/blm



Results of the gypsy moth egg mass survey conducted at the Beltsville
Agricultural Research Center

Plot Number	Number/em acre
1	0
2	0
3	0
4	0
5	0
6	0
7	0
8	360
9	200
10	0
11	0
12	40
13	40
14	0
15	0
16	0
17	0
18	0
19	0
20	0
21	0
22	0
23	0
24	0
25	0

em/acre range = 0 – 360

em/ acre average = 26

Figure 1. Gypsy moth survey plot locations at BARC, September 25 and 26, 2006.

